

## NEWS OF THE STAGE.

SUMMER PRODUCTIONS IN LOCAL PLAYHOUSES  
AND OUT-OF-DOOR AMUSEMENTS.

## THIS WEEK'S PLAYBILLS

## Washington Canoe Club Minstrels.

The Washington Canoe Club Minstrels will appear to-morrow night and Tuesday night at Chase's Theater in a double bill, "In Japan" and "In Africa with Roosevelt." The music for both of the acts was composed especially for the occasion by Ben Judson, and the libretto and lyrics by L. F. Eberbach. The management has made elaborate preparations, and the performances will be on a larger scale than anything hitherto attempted by the canoe club.

The company includes forty male singers, who have been rehearsing for the past two months. The libretto is sparkling with local and national hits, strung up to date. The real negro minstrel show will be given in the first part. There will be a big circle with four end men and interludes. The songs will be by T. Brooke Amlap, Jr., and Felix Mahony, and the tambos will be "Cap." W. A. Morsell and Harold Lincoln. The interludes will be by J. Frank Dugan. Other principals in this act will be Capt. T. R. Ralston, as the Mikado; R. E. Broth, as the Kaiser; Edward H. Brown, as Kermit Roosevelt, and Roland R. Rodrick, Harry Stevens, Newton T. Hamner, and Dr. N. Willis Pomeroy, as officers of the club's yacht.

Special interest attaches to the musical skill which forms the second half of the performance. The scene is laid in the wilds of Africa, and the characters are a jungle princess and her daughter, the chiefs of a nearby tribe, the African Beau Brummell, Chieftain attendant of the princess, and other jungle folk. Col. Roosevelt and his party appear at an opportune moment to afford lots of fun and chances for some mighty unique musical numbers. The principal characters already mentioned as taking part in the first part in this skit the cast will include Howard Youngs, as the old scientist; George Kehoe, as the "big stick" hunter; Oswald Camp, as the traveling wireless operator; and a number of other characters, so that Col. Roosevelt can keep in constant touch with the Outlook in New York.

Some of the brand-new musical numbers that will be introduced are "In Japan" and "In Africa with Roosevelt." "Memories," "No Possible Doubt Whatsoever," "Away to the Jungle Tangle," "The African Beau Brummell," "For I Am Theodore Roosevelt," "A Jungle Wooing," "The African Beau Brummell," "Percy F. Leach, who staged 'About Thebes,' the society comedy which is being given under the general supervision of the president of the club, Odell L. Whipple, and the immediate direction of a committee of which Mr. Amis is the chairman. The other members of the committee are T. Arthur Smith, Ben Judson, Dr. N. Willis Pomeroy, L. F. Eberbach, Felix Mahony, R. G. Searle, and Donald A. Craig.

Particular attention will be given to the stage effects and costumes, the latter having been secured especially for the occasion by Mr. Smith from New York City.

## "The Prince Chap."

"The Prince Chap" was conceived by Edward Peple, produced by Walter M. Lawrence at the Madison Square Theater, developed, in the course of three years, into a great character in the hands of Cyril Scott, and now, as the Columbia management believe, will achieve his greatest artistic triumphs in the hands of Orme Caldara, the leading man of the Columbia Players. It was, indeed, primarily for the purpose of quickly making mutual friends of Mr. Caldara and their patrons that the play was selected at this time and is to be given a setting thoroughly in keeping with the standard that has been set by Frederick A. Thomson, whose work as stage director of the Columbia players has been a revelation to the theatergoers. "The Prince Chap" has frequently been compared with the "Musical Master," and there are certain lines of similarity, but it is best described as a beautiful comedy of sentiment that grips the interest from the rise of the curtain, develops a delightful vein of humor and sends away a pleased audience. It is admirably suited for the qualifications of the Columbia Players. John Dean plays a girl who, in the daughter of an artist's model; Ethel Wright becomes a maid of all work; Phoebe Puckers; Ruth D. Blake is Alice Travers, the American girl; and Little Helen Brown and Ruth Chatterton compete for honors as Claudia. Among the men Thomas Chatterton is cast as Balington, a part he played in the original production; Alexander Calvert and Laurence Eyre, his fellow-artists, Fritz and Yadder; Everett Butterfield as Jack Rodney, the American painter; Alexander Frank as Marcus Rumlin; James W. Shaw as the truckman; and Mr. Caldara as William Peyton, an American sculptor, otherwise the "Prince Chap."

National—"A Chinese Honeymoon." For the fifth week of the Aborn Comic Opera Company's present season at the New National Theater the clever little comedienne, Katie Barry, has been specially engaged to head the usual array of Aborn favorites in her original role of Fi Fi in "A Chinese Honeymoon," one of the greatest musical hits of recent years in London and New York, which this enterprising management will present for the first time at the moderate box-office scale maintained for the summer at the New National. Miss Barry took theatergoers by storm on both sides of the Atlantic a few years ago by her original and ludicrous comedy methods in this piece, and the engagement of so important a star will be a notable event in the Aborn season. English musical comedy of this sort was tried out for several weeks during the Aborn run at the National a year ago and proved one of the most attractive forms of entertainment they have given here. George W. Leslie, who made several successive hits of the most pronounced order in these offerings last year, will return to the Aborn aggregation to assume another appropriate and advantageous role as Mr. Pineapple in "A Chinese Honeymoon." Still another favorite of last summer's series, H. W. Tre Denick, will have the comedy character of the Emperor of China; Fritz von Busing will extend the compass of her remarkable versatility as Mrs. Pineapple, a role different from any of the variety of parts she has appeared in so far; Blanche Morrison will be cast for the charming Princess Soo Soo, the prima donna role; Forrest Huff will have ample display for his talents as Tasherton, William Herman West will be well placed again as El Lung, Hattie Arnold's infectious humor will be afforded full play as Mrs. Brown, and El Solomon will round out the comedy elements as Chippie Chop. The capable chorus of the Aborn company, better than ever before this season, will be given the prominence and opportunities well earned by their excellent performances in preceding weeks, and the staging is being carefully directed by William W. Leslie.

Miss Barry to Appear. Miss Katie Barry, the Fi-Fi of "A Chinese Honeymoon," at the New National Theater this week, has but recently concluded a vaudeville tour of thirty-three weeks. Miss Barry created the role of the singer stage manager of "A Chinese Honeymoon" under the Shubert manage-

ment, who was brought to Washington under special engagement for a fortnight for this purpose.

## The Gayety-Burlesque.

This week Manager Jack Singer will introduce here for the second time this season the great "Behman Show." The company of players carried by Mr. Singer is without a competitor. The production is beautifully mounted, expensively costumed, and full of clean comedy. One of the features of the show will be impersonations of some of the famous characters of Broadway's leading successes, such as Oscar Hammerstein, Mme. Melba, Maud Adams, Anna Held, Charles Bigelow, and Montgomery and Stone. The principals in the entertainment are: Mollie Williams, W. J. Calk, James J. Morton, Frank and Marion Moore, Philip White, Ned Dandy, and Margaret King, all of them clever people. A number of high-class vaudeville acts will have a part in the programme, while that up-to-date and thoroughly burlesque on amateur night will be the piece de resistance in the comedy line.

## The Innocent-Burlesque.

The Innocent Maids, with the Girl in Blue as the added attraction, will hold the boards at the Lyceum week of May 31. The company is a large and capable one, and the Girl in Blue is one of the best drawing cards on the burlesque stage, having created a big sensation wherever she has appeared. Miss Anna Deck heads the company of players; Teddy Burns, comedian, assisted by Sol Abrahams, William Patton, Burt M. Jack, and Sam Pomeroy, will serve out the fun, and Miss Virginia Ware, whom a prominent critic passed upon as the girl "who just can't make her feet keep still," will aid to make the performance a most enjoyable one.

Review of Belasco Theater's Season. Last night's performance completes the fourth regular season of the Belasco Theater. From the time the Lafayette Square Opera House was transformed into the Belasco Theater, each year has shown a decided advance in financial gains and public favor. The past season has been in every sense the most successful, artistically and financially, of the playhouse's career under its first-class regime. Of the Belasco Theater's distinguished standing in this community, little need be said; a view of its average audience speaks for itself. From a dramatic and artistic standpoint, the Belasco has stood in a most unquestioned manner the past season. Several of New York's most successful attractions had their premiere performance on the stage of this playhouse. The first premiere—David Belasco's own production of "The Fighting Hope," in which Blanche Bates opened the Belasco season here, continued all season in New York, and was quickly followed by William Faversham's production of "The World and His Wife," which only recently closed its all-season run. Another important premiere was David Belasco's production of "The Boy and the Girl," in which Frances Starr has achieved a phenomenal success and is still playing to capacity houses in New York, where it is acknowledged to be the greatest metropolitan success of the year. "The Beauty Spot," with Jefferson de Angelis as the star, also heard its first applause here and is still running in New York, where it is destined to pass the summer. A partial list of the distinguished stars and attractions booked at the Belasco this season is a remarkable generalization of all that is most worthy on the American stage, both from a serious and amusing standpoint. This list would include Mme. Xanthippe, White Lasky in "The Battle," Italian Grand Opera Company, David Warfield, Julia Marlowe, E. H. Sothern, and a joint appearance of these two foremost artists in "Hamlet." Bertha Kalich, Mary Manning, Maxine Elliott, Mrs. Pike, George Arliss, John Mason, "Madam Butterfly," Eddie Foy in "Mr. Hamlet of Broadway," Joe Weber's Company, Sam Bernard in "Nearly a Hero," Lew Fields, Louise Gunning in "Marcelle," Lulu Glaser in "Mlle. Michie," De Wolf Hopper, and Bertha Gilchrist.

In closing this brief review it is only just to state that while the credit of the bookings properly go to the Messrs. Shubert of New York, the very sincere popularity of the theater is due in a large measure to the resident manager, Mr. L. S. Taylor, whose unfailing courtesy and constant thought for the comfort and convenience of the Belasco Theater patrons have resulted in a host of personal friends for the house among the theatergoers of the Capital. For next season the management promise to achieve an even greater success from every standpoint, worth while in the context of a thoroughly first-class theater.

## Luna Park This Week.

At Luna Park this afternoon and to-morrow the American Regimental Band will render sacred concerts, with the added novelty of famous singers through the auxetophone. Aeronaut King Kelly will also give two ascensions and parachute drops at 4:30 and 7:45. With to-morrow, Decoration Day, the second week of the park's present season will commence, with a complete matinee of every attraction and amusement on the grounds. The band concerts will be given afternoon and night, and King Kelly has been especially retained for to-morrow, giving two last balloon ascensions and parachute drops at 3:15 and 7:45. A special feature of these ascensions, Mr. Kelly will take up with him his dog, an experienced aeronaut, who is dropped in his own parachute. A splendid vaudeville bill has been engaged, which will be presented on slightly different lines from formerly. The only vaudeville musical performance will be to-morrow and for that and the nightly performances during the week there will be two continuous performances given, so that those coming a little late can remain over for the second and witness the entire programme for the one admission charge. The acts engaged are as follows: Hanley and Jarvis, fun-makers; Tom Moore, champion con shooter; Helston and Hood, singing, eccentric dancing, and comedy specialty; The Three Scotts, a clever acrobatic trio; and as a special feature, the Four English Rosebuds, whirlwind dancing comedienne, who have been featured in big musical comedy productions.

## Fred Meek a Hustler.

Fred Meek, the Washington manager for the Aborn Opera Company, was press representative and general manager of the Lamb's All-Star Gambol at the New National last Thursday afternoon. Mr. Meek is a son of Kate Meek, the well-known actress, now appearing in London with Miss Billie Burke in "Love Watches."

## Miss Katie Barry to Appear.

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## NOTES OF THE STAGE.

Evelyn Carleton has been engaged for the cast of "The Follies of 1909." William H. Thompson has left London for Paris to join his wife, Isabel Irving. Mrs. Leslie Carter appeared at the Delmar Garden in St. Louis on last Sunday night in "Du Barry."

Fred Block and George Hunt have bought the rights and entire production of "The Right of Way."

Bessie Monaghan is shortly to appear with the Columbia Players in a part of considerable importance.

Nat Goodwin and Edna Goodrich are still playing in the far West, appearing in San Francisco recently.

Charles Klein's play, "The Third Degree," is now in its fifth month at the Hudson Theater, New York.

"Tar and Tartar" and "King Dodo" have been announced to follow "The Sultan of Sulu" at the New National.

Hattie Williams sailed for Europe on Wednesday and will confer with Charles Frohman when she arrives in London.

During his stay in this country Joseph O'Mara is giving a few recitals in the West, which have been gratifying successes.

The oldest theatrical family is the Kembles. The first of these to take up the profession was Roger Kemble, born in 1712.

Francis Wilson will appear next season in his own play, "The Bachelor's Baby," under the management of Charles Frohman.

During the auction sale of the effects of Henrietta Cromwell, held in New York recently, a prompt book of "As You Like It" brought \$40.

William Collier has bought Edna Wallace Hopper's automobile, which was the actress' engagement gift from her husband, A. O. Brown.

George Hamlin, who was one of the sweet singers in the Lamb's Gambol last week, is accounted one of the foremost concert singers in America.

Henry Schumann-Helk, son of the prima donna, has adopted the stage as a profession, having entered the chorus of "The Boy and the Girl."

"For a Woman" is the title chosen for Paul Armstrong's new play, now in rehearsal and soon to be produced by Henry Miller and Frank McKee.

Lenna Duer, the Washington dancer, will have the "speaking part" of Singing in this week's revival of "A Chinese Honeymoon" at the National.

Frederick A. Thomson, stage director of the Columbia Theater, has accepted an invitation to give a reading for the blind at the Library of Congress, Tuesday.

Marie Cecil, who will be remembered as a member of the cast of "The Time, the Place and the Girl," was in "The Revellers," at the Belasco Theater last week.

"Foolish Questions" is the title of a new song, which is one of the hits of "The Beauty Spot," now running merrily at the Herald Square Theater, New York.

Genevieve Bonner, of "The Beauty Spot" chorus, has written a song called "The Tears of Old Broadway," the rights to which have been acquired by F. Ray Comstock.

James T. Powers, in "Havana," at the Casino Theater, New York, continues a record-breaking career. The star and the production are overwhelmed with praise on all sides.

In addition to the \$724 received at the Lamb's All-Star Gambol at the New National last Thursday, \$350 was paid to the management of the club for souvenir programmes.

Eleanor Robson, who is nearing the close of a successful run of Mrs. Burnett's play, "The Dawn of a To-morrow," will spend her vacation automobilizing through Maine.

Frederic Lewis, who has been with E. H. Sothern, has been engaged by Henry B. Harris for "On the Eve." Another engagement for the same play is that of Arthur Byron.

W. Somerset Maugham has rewritten the last act of "The Explorer," his play which was produced at the Lyric Theater, London, last June. It will be revived by Lewis Walker.

It is a pretty big part that requires three people to play it at each performance, but that is the requirement of the part of Claudia in "Prince Chap" at the Columbia this week.

The Booths were of Jewish descent; the Irvings, Cornish; the Robertsons, Celtic; the Boucauts, originally French; the Jeffersons, English; the Barrymores and the Drews, Irish.

It has been announced that next September Robert Mantell will begin a two years' tour of the world, sailing first for Australia and appearing later in India, South Africa, and England.

Gertrude Coghlan has been engaged by Henry B. Harris for the leading role in W. Somerset Maugham's comedy, "The Noble Spaniard," in which Robert Edison is to star next season.

George W. Leslie, a Philadelphia, whose first engagement was with the famous comedian, John Sleeper Clarke, under the management of the veteran John T. Ford. Mr. Leslie followed this engagement with Roland Reed, Hoyt and Thomas, playing the leading comedy role in their well-known musical comedy successes. He played for three years with William H. Crane in "The Senator," and was chief comedian with the "All-Star Stock Company" of Augustus Pitou. He later joined the Columbia Stock Company of San Francisco, in which company he appeared with such players as Blanche Bates, Maxine Elliott, Frank Worthing, and Marlyn Arbuckle. Mr. Leslie was principal comedian with Charles Frohman's production of "Wilkinson's Widow," "Mrs. Grundy," and "Jane." He enjoyed a three years' tour of the world starting in musical comedies, one of his greatest hits being in the role of Flipper in "A Runaway Girl."

Mr. Leslie's engagement with the local company is an indefinite one and his host of friends here will wish him a long stay on the local stage. His role this week will be that of Samuel Pineapple in "A Chinese Honeymoon," and next week he will appear in the title role of "The Sultan of Sulu."

## AMUSEMENTS.

HOLIDAY  
MATINEE  
TOMORROW  
AT 2:20.

NEW  
NATIONAL  
PERMANENT SEASON OF LIGHT OPERA  
Nights at 8:20. Mats. at 2:20.  
25c - 50c - 75c  
FOURTH WEEK ABORN OPERA CO. in  
**A CHINESE HONEYMOON**  
With KATIE BARRY as Fi-Fi.  
School Children's Matinee Wednesday.  
All Seats, 25c Reserved.  
Regular Matinee Saturday, 25c-50c  
NEXT WEEK—SEATS TOMORROW.  
**THE SULTAN OF SULU**

## COMING ATTRACTIONS.

National—"The Sultan of Sulu."

About the nearest approach to the masterful satires of W. S. Gilbert in which he collaborated with Sir Arthur Sullivan is the libretto which George Ade wrote for "The Sultan of Sulu," which Henry W. Savage produced at Wallack's Theater, New York, several years ago, where it enjoyed tremendous success throughout its long run, and which the Aborn Comic Opera Company will present as their sixth weekly offering at the National Theater.

There is the suave and ingenious little Sultan, a rascal, but a thoroughly amusing one; his poor abused, but ridiculously funny secretary, a Hadji, his seven picturesque little Philippine wives, headed by the hot-tempered but charming little Chiquita, who is wife No. 1; Col. Jefferson Budd, who comes to govern the Sultan's little island after the Spanish war; his beautiful daughter, Henrietta, the typical American girl; handsome young Lieut. Hardy, of the regulars; Pamela Jackson, a spinster of the suffragette order, appointed judge advocate, who makes life miserable for the Sultan with her new-fangled laws; Wakeful Jones, the enterprising young American traveling salesman; the four fascinating Boston school ma'ams, and many others introduced in the two quaint Oriental scenes of "The Sultan of Sulu." The cast will be of the usual popular and appropriate selection, including George W. Leslie as the Sultan, Howard Chambers as Col. Budd, Percy Lee as Lieut. Hardy, Jack Henderson as Hadji, Blanche Morrison as Henrietta, Harriet Sheldon as Pamela, and Fritz von Busing as Chiquita.

"Are You a Mason?" Well, whether you are or not, you'll enjoy the question as it will be propounded by the Columbia Players at the Columbia Theater throughout the week beginning next Monday night. "Are You a Mason?" is a farce. It is the one in which Thomas Wise, John Elce, and Fannie Cohen found themselves carried forward on the wave of popular approval and incidentally drew more money than in any other place in which they have appeared for years. It is an adaptation from the German, being translated and arranged for American audiences by Leo Dietrichstein, one of the most expert of adapters. Its production at the present time marks another decided departure in the policy of the Columbia management, which heretofore has restricted itself to the more delicate comedy and dramatic successes, but the departure will give further evidence of the exceptional versatility of the Players. The farce will be adequately staged and provided with every accessory essential to a first-class performance.

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